11. **Joint-stock Companies.**—44 Companies were registered during the year against 26 in 1080. The number of Companies limited by shares was 11. The number of Companies working at the end of the year rose to 106, of which 5 were maintained by voluntary contributions.

12. **Forests.**—The total area of reserved forests at the end of the year was 2,266 square miles and 276 acres, and of reserved lands 166 square miles and 20 acres. The work of forest settlement which was entrusted to the Division Peishkars was progressing very slowly as they were not able to dispose of such cases expeditiously along with their ordinary duties. A special officer was therefore appointed for this work and the work is now being pushed on vigorously.

No addition was made during the year to the area of fuel and fodder reserves. The attention of the Conservator has been drawn to the desirability of providing grazing grounds at every agricultural centre in consultation with the Revenue department. 74·5 additional acres were planted with teak.

The quantity of timber removed fell from 63,175 candies to 61,848 candies and the revenue from Rs. 6,38,000 to Rs. 6,27,000. The fall in revenue is attributed to the smaller quantity of timber worked down by the contractors and to the general depression in the timber trade due to continued famine in British India.

Revised rules for the pursuit of game in reserved forests were passed during the year. Sanction was accorded for dispensing with the monopoly system in respect of the (Kanniyelam) cardamom gardens in Todupuzha Taluk and leasing out the gardens for a period of 5 years.

The system of measuring timber by koles and candies was ordered to be discontinued and measurement in English feet and inches introduced.

A fee of 1 Rupee per ton on fuel removed from unreserved forests was introduced during the year, but owing to complaints from various quarters it was suspended for 6 months from 1st May 1906. A fee of 4 annas per ton has since been fixed.

13. **Cardamom and other produce.**—The Superintendent

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